## **Maryland Department of Human Resources**

Michael S. Steele Lieutenant Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Governor Christopher J. McCabe Secretary

## **Press Release**

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## CARMEN PRATT WINS LATINA LEADERSHIP AWARD

Coordinator for Governor's Commissions one of twelve to be recognized

**Baltimore, MD** (February 20, 2004) – The National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL) has named Carmen E. Pratt as one of 12 winners of the 2004 Latina Leadership Award. She will receive the award for her tireless efforts to improve the quality of education, employment, and living conditions for Maryland's Hispanic citizens and immigrants.

Ms. Pratt serves as the Executive Coordinator of the Governor's Commissions on Asian Pacific American Affairs, Hispanic Affairs, and Migratory Seasonal Farm Labor. "In her role as Executive Coordinator, Carmen works diligently to keep immigrant issues on the forefront of the Maryland agenda, bringing a renewed commitment and energy to these very important commissions," said Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary of the Department of Human Resources, where the Commissions are housed.

This award is given annually to Latina women who exhibit excellent leadership qualities and take active roles in their communities. Women, legislators and affiliates of the National Council of La Raza, (a National Hispanic organization that works with legislators and other Hispanic organizations) nominate recipients.

The award will be presented on Monday, February 23 at a congressional luncheon at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. during the annual Women Lawmakers' Networking Day.